



Tuesday

8.45am Parish Church Morning Prayer

5.30pm Parish Church Prayers for World Peace

Thursday

8.45am Parish Church Morning Prayer 2pm (term time only) Parish Church Time for Tots

5.30pm Parish Church Evening Prayer

Saturday

9am Ayot St Lawrence Morning Prayer
5.30pm (summer months) Ayot St Lawrence Evening Prayer
5.30pm (winter months) Parish Church Evening Prayer

Sunday

8am Parish Church Holy Communion (BCP)

9.30am 1st Sunday each month Family Communion followed by

Parish Breakfast

8am Parish Church other Sundays Holy Communion (Common Worship)

9.30 Holy Communion followed by

coffee

11.30am Ayot St Lawrence Mattins with Holy Communion

2nd Sunday each month (BCP)

6pm Perry Green Baptist Chapel Evening service

The Parish Magazine Team is trying to help the environment

The Parish Magazine is now printed on recycled paper.

The editor and production team acknowledge with thanks a donation received from Kimpton Environmentalists.



Dear Friends,

The sky is grey, and rain is pouring down, but outside my study window the garden is full of snowdrops and crocuses, while in the back garden the forsythia is out, the mock orange has a green haze at the tips of its branches, and soon there will be daffodils everywhere we look. All around us the annual cheerful miracle of Spring is happening despite the rain clouds and cold winds.

Life in Kimpton church has been a little like the changing season. Last year several of our much loved members either passed away or moved out of the village so that our numbers dropped dramatically, but instead of falling into despair, we have been given new hope, new energy, and a renewed enthusiasm. How? The answer is simple, we came together in prayer, trusting and expecting our Lord to help and guide us, and within two or three weeks some young families who have recently moved into the village started coming to services, and what a wonderful blessing they are! The Church members who prayed together have been encouraged and energised by God*s answer, so look out for all sorts of new initiatives and services, which we hope many of you will enjoy. Anyone who thinks that Church is dull and boring has not been to ours! And now a HUGE thank you on behalf of the Kimpton family who found themselves in dire straits just before Christmas. A box for donations was placed on the Vicarage doorstep and eventually two car loads of food, household supplies, cash, and even some Christmas cheer were delivered to a family completely overwhelmed by your generosity. Your act of loving kindness was made even more special as none of you asked for names or details. You have made me proud to be your vicar, and I thank you all again.

As always there will be special Easter services in both Kimpton and Ayot St. Lawrence, and don't forget May Festival (as if you could!) just a week later, and O yes, there's also a Royal Wedding to look forward to at the same time. I hope and pray that in all the busyness you will be able take time to reflect on the reality of Easter --- that through Christ's death on the Cross and His Resurrection, we have the unbreakable promise of Eternal Life in Him.

My love and prayers to you all, Lorraine

HOLY WEEK & EASTER IN KIMPTON & AYOT ST. LAWRENCE

YOU ARE WARMLY INVITED TO COME ALONG TO ANY SERVICE

Monday 18th, Tuesday 19th & Wednesday 20th April

5:30pm Kimpton Prayer & meditation

MAUNDY THURSDAY 21st April 8pm Kimpton

Service of Holy Communion with Stripping of the Altar, followed by Meditation and Vigil

GOOD FRIDAY (22nd April) Kimpton

10:00am Children's Activities in church - Hearing the Easter Story, making an Easter Garden, eating Hot Cross Buns.

11:30am Kimpton Christians Together Walk of Witness. Starting at the School, a Cross will be carried around the village, arriving at approx. 12:00 noon for a Service in the Parish Church.

6:30pm Kimpton
Service of Music and Readings led by the Choir

HOLY SATURDAY (23rd April)

10-11am Ayot St. Lawrence.

4-5pm Kimpton

The Vicar will be available in Church for anyone who would like to have a chat and/or to receive personal assurance of God's love and forgiveness of sins.

EASTER DAY

Kimpton

8am Holy Communion 9:30am Family Service of Holy Communion and Easter Egg Hunt

> Ayot St. Lawrence 11:30am Holy Communion (1662) with Kimpton Parish Church Choir

From The Registers

Baptisms

23 December 2010 Harry James Phillips

Buriels and Interments

25th November 2010 Jock White

7th December 2010

14th December 2010

19th December 2010

8th February 2011

Sth February 2011

10th February 2011 Giuseppina Dyke

22nd February 2011 Anthony Dyke

The Editor and production team acknowledge with grateful thanks donations received from Kimpton Autumn Show and Maisie Harding.

Ron Coleman 25th August 1933 – 5th December 2010

After a long battle with Moto Neuron Decease Ron died on the 5th December 2010.

Throughout this devastating illness friends and family from all over the world travelled the journey with us, every week seeing Ron losing the battle with this wasteful condition.

During this long relentless illness Ron remained cheerful and positive knowing he would never return to good health. He was born in Kimpton and belonged over the years to so many of the organizations. In his earlier years he was passionate about the sports groups a well as Kimpton Players. In later years he really enjoyed the Bench Committee and all it stood for 'helping the community,' he was very keen to give something back to a community which had given him so much over the years.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank family and friends for their kindness and loyalty shown to us during the illness and especially after Ron died it is a great comfort to us knowing that so many of you cared.

We also owe a huge debt of gratitude to the support groups who helped us to keep Ron at home which was his wish. They are the Moto Neuron Association, Marie Curie Nurses and MacMillan nurses all of whom we could not have managed without.

The response to our appeal for donations to the Moto Neuron Association once again everyone has been so generous. The amount we have raised to date is almost £2000.00 a truly

splendid amount of money for which on behalf of the MND we thank you all.

In a letter from the MND Association they state that these donations will help to ensure that we can continue to fund their extensive support services for people living with MND.

Thank you everyone. Linda, Derek & Heather

MAKING A BIGGER NOISE!

Last year, 45 people took part in the Parish Church's 'Noise' project. During the day - a very wet day as I recall!- many tasks were completed for people who would have been unable to do them on their own. Volunteers aged 6 - 70 tackled overgrown gardens, fences, wall-painting and gate-mending and got a lot of pleasure from the joy that it gave.

This summer - Saturday 20th August - we will be having another go. Everyone will be welcome to join in. No experience or skill necessary!

If you would like to take part, or know of a project we could tackle, ring Andy Morton on 01438 832427.

Mike and Sandra Benson with the Vicar at their leaving party in Church House



Debbie McIlraith with Josh who is now 2



Simon and Sue Kingham with Children Joey and Ellie who are now 5 and 8

Ex-Kimpton Residents Safe in Christchurch

Sandra and Mike Benson left Kimpton at the end of January to start a new life in New Zealand to be near their son and daughter who already live there.

They had been away for a few days to Kaikoura on the coast, about 3 hour's drive from Christchurch. They went out in a boat and saw several albatross about 3 feet away and many other sea birds, seals and one lonely penguin, also a pod of Hecter dolphins - they are the world's smallest dolphins. They then travelled on to Auckland for a week to see their eldest granddaughter Molly who is starting University. Then back to Christchurch......

On February 22nd they were visiting a museum in Christchurch when the earthquake struck. They said it was "very scary" and felt extremely lucky that they were not hurt. They returned quickly to their daughter Sharon's house, which was not damaged, but a lot of things ended up on the floor and there was no power or mains water.

Dacre Crescent resident Tony Newton's daughter Debbie McIlraith had a miraculous escape. Debbie and husband Brendan were taking turns to look after their son Josh who hadn't been well. Debbie, who worked in the PGG building, left her job early at 12 noon to be with Josh and at 12.50 the building was demolished by the quake killing several of her work colleagues. Tony said that although she is thankful not to have been hurt she is still very much in shock.

Viv Kingham's son Simon and family were not hurt but their home was so seriously damaged that they are no longer able to live there.

The British Red Cross has an Earthquake Appeal to help around 2000 people who have been displaced. Details of how to donate can be found at www.redcross.org.uk



From the Chairman

As I look back over another year and forward to our Annual Parish Meeting on 25th May, it is with a sense of satisfaction measured

over a particularly busy period, involving three new, previously inexperienced Councillors who in common with us all, give of their time and energy to help direct and manage our parish council business.

Mentioning just a few of the issues addressed and others completed, I begin with a warning we should remain vigilant to threat posed our rural setting by the East of Luton Urban Development plan. Whilst many of the initial planning proposals have been withdrawn there is a developer about with significant assets already assembled for this project who, it is my concern, will return with new ideas and plans to build on a large scale – a scale it would be difficult to imagine not directly affecting parish life.

In my last newsletter I mentioned the National Planning Inspectors visit and meeting of November 4th, last, to consider an application by residents to de-register our village green in Kimpton. Your council objected to this proposal and we have since learned it was indeed refused. Residents living around Kimpton Village Green have been notified by the Council their existing condition of access to their homes is unchanged to the terms existing at the time of them purchasing their property.

The Lloyd Way and Probyn House site development planning application will be considered by North Herts District Council at their meeting on 17th March. It is to be expected work will be underway by the time of our next Parish Newsletter. Whilst appreciating building work will affect some in the Parish much more than others, we can expect significant local funding to be released to the Parish from the planning gain which will be due under a S106 agreement to be signed. Currently, your Council is considering allocations from this gain and identifying target expenditure which we would like to see include – Kimpton – Blackmore End Cycle Path, Kimpton Memorial Hall redevelopment, a Fitness Trail, additional children's (Under 5's) play equipment, Dacre Rooms and capital equipment for the new Preschool. Funds likely to be released are expected to be well in excess of £100k.

This really good news will be tempered by the fact that Probyn House is likely to witness its final resident leave well before building work starts. Following demolition this area will become part of the Lloyd Way development scheme. Work on the Parish Play Strategy 2008 – 2018 has come to a pause following installation on the Recreation Ground of the new Performa Arch – judging by the number of young people already using this new equipment – in the rain – it is likely to prove another great addition to our range of play equipment.

Having passed our budget plans for 2011 – 2012, recently, choosing not to increase the local precept (your rates collected for use by the Parish Council) we will be working within very restricted finances in the new Council year.

One of my least pleasant yet more important functions in writing this quarterly report on behalf of your Parish Council is to mention the continuing issue of dog fouling (mess) around otherwise attractive playgrounds, sports fields and pathways. We are enjoying longer hours of daylight again, extended opportunity to much enjoy our lovely rural environment. PLEASE, will that small minority of dog owners who continue to refuse to respect the wishes of everyone else, change their own behaviours – not their dogs – and choose to carry plastic bags and remove their dogs mess, every time. Your Parish Council provides many suitable bins for this very purpose regularly emptied. Thank you.

Finally, we still seek someone, either voluntarily or commercially, to help us set up an interactive website for the Parish Council. Whilst mentioned in my last report – we have yet to receive any offer to assist.

As usual, my sincere thanks go to our Clerk, to Bob Finch and the folk of the Kimpton Bench Working Party, we remain deeply indebted to you all for your community engagement and the extensive local works completed so faithfully, also to my colleagues around our Council table – a truly busy and a mostly enjoyable year, much dealt with – more completed, a good result. Thank you.

Cllr David I Reavell Chairman

Stand up and be counted!

2011 Census - Help tomorrow take shape

The national Census takes place every ten years and is a count of every person living in the UK. The next Census will take place on 27th March 2011.

The Census matters to everyone as population counts are used to allocate money to Hertfordshire for local services in the next 10 years. These include health, the police, schools and colleges, housing, roads and public transport and other services provided by both the County Council and North Herts District Council such as sports and leisure facilities. Businesses also use Census information to help plan where to provide jobs and facilities such as shops.

The Office for National Statistics is planning for the Census and wants to encourage and help everyone to be counted. Every household will receive a Census form in early March. For the first time it will be possible to complete the Census on-line via the internet as well as returning a form by post.

As we get nearer to Census day, more information will be provided, including how to get help if needed. If you wish to find out more, the Census website contains lots of information at www.census.gov.uk

Kimpton WI

There are interesting talks at WI meetings in the Memorial Hall lounge on the 2nd Wednesday of the month.

In April: 'The work of the Woodland Trust', very topical.

Visit our Cake stall on Saturday of May Festival week-end.

In May: 'The Bayeux tapestry', Gary Fisher's illustrated talk.

In June: 'Riding for the Disabled', by local volunteer Jackie Meredith.

In July: 'Inside a writer's mind' by Londoner Jean Fullerton.

Join us at 7.30p.m. for a prompt start at 7.45p.m. for a lively evening and opportunities for fun and friendship.

Valerie Pollington

Kimpton Players

It's March, and Music Hall has already come and gone. The show went really well, with good audiences, and two highly successful Charity Nights. Many thanks to all who took part and all who came to support us.

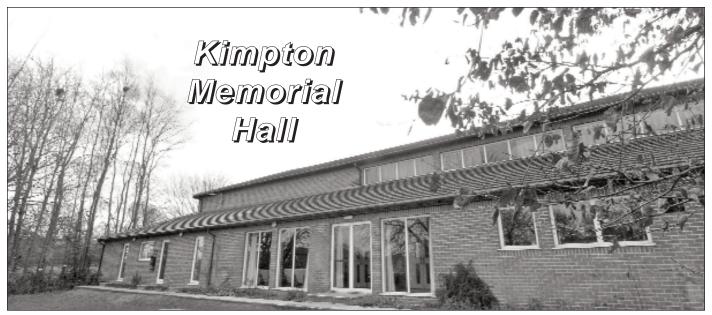
We're now working on our Spring Production, which will be taking place from June 15th – 18th. This time we're going for a complete change of mood, presenting Harold Pinter's extraordinary and powerful drama 'The Caretaker'. The first commercially successful play by Pinter, widely regarded as Britain's greatest post-war dramatist, it is a beautifully crafted and thoughtful exploration of the relationship between three very different men. As with all of his work, Pinter uses the language at it's telling, startling best, here showing a wry sense of the ridiculous that balances heartache and laughter.

Full details will be on the posters nearer the time, and we look forward to seeing you all in June.

Arthur South

The deadline for the summer edition of the Parish Magazine is Friday June 3rd 2011

Please email your copy and jpegs to kimpton.editor@btinternet.com



"It's YOUR Hall!"

I reported in the previous issue of this magazine that the recycling facilities situated in the Hall's car Park were causing severe problems, and that the Management of the Hall was in contact with the Parish Council to try to resolve the matter. The outcome was that the Parish Council was keen to retain the Plastic recycling facility, but felt that the glass recycling (which causes most of our problems) was duplicated, in that there is also a house to house collection: and that this facility could therefore be dispensed with. The suggestion is that we remove the glass facility and retain the plastic facility on a trial basis for a further year, at the end of which period we will review the situation.

This issue will be determined at the Memorial Hall AGM to be held in the Hall on Tuesday 22nd March at 8.00pm. But in any event it seems that the days of this facility may be numbered due to Government spending restrictions and the ending of the current contractor's contract next year.

On a much more positive note, we would like to thank Bob Finch for organising one of his (fairly regular) Memorial Hall fundraising concerts which (as reported elsewhere in this magazine) took place on Sunday 30th January. This was a 'sell out' and it raised almost £2,000 for the Hall's funds, every penny of which will be spent on our refurbishment and improvement programme.

We are incredibly grateful to John Blackshaw

and Mandy Britton, Helen Mc Phun, and Stephen Tees, (who travelled all the way from Kelso to help us, and who compered the whole thing with his usual savoir faire!). These are all musicians, professional and they completely freely of their time and considerable talents, to make it a wonderful afternoon. We are also indebted to the Children of the Orchestra of Kimpton School who were, in the writer's humble opinion, absolutely marvellous! They are a great credit to their tutors, again John Blackshaw, Mandy Britton and Helen McPhun. (We are very lucky to have them!). Thanks again to everybody involved! See next page.

Back to more mundane matters, the argument with NHDC, concerning the damage their lorry inflicted upon our car park, looks to have been resolved. A settlement has been agreed and we are awaiting a payment; although if previous experience is anything to go by, we would be unwise to hold our breath!

For the moment there is something of a lull in the refurbishment programme, partly because those of us driving it have temporarily run out of breath, and partly because the coffers are running a bit low! We already have three further major projects in mind, the 'Ladies', refurbishing the car park, and converting the plant room into a kitchenette. So if you feel you might be able to help with the planning of any of these or there is anything you or your organisation would like to see done, we would be delighted to have you involved. Give Bob Finch or me a call. As I have said so often it is YOUR Hall.

Roger Nash 01438 832101







Music and Mince Pie Concert January 2011 Fantastic. Brilliant. Amazing!

Words fail me. How can a small village like Kimpton produce such an entertaining and competent orchestra of 22 children, aged only 6 to 11, playing to a packed audience of nearly 200? Yes, that is what occurred at the end of January in the Memorial Hall.

One significant reason is that we have some very talented musicians in the village who teach the children. John Blackshaw, Mandy Britton, and Helen McPhun are not only their teachers, but that afternoon played their hearts out on their own instruments as well. Not to be outdone, Stephen Tees made a welcome return visit, both to play and compere the afternoon.

It was not to be missed.

Thank you to all the performers, both children and adults, and all the helpers behind the scenes. Anyone who was there in the audience will surely be back next time - if you missed it, ask them. Oh, and, as a bonus, we made nearly £2,000 profit for the Memorial Hall improvements. What an afternoon!

Bob Finch

The Kimpton School orchestra is pictured at the top of the page. The trumpeters are Jonty Watkins Rees (centre) and Will Nash.

Photos by Juliet Morton



What are Kimpton Scouts up to this Spring?

Well once again Spring has very nearly sprung, and it's time to let you know what's going on in your village Scout Group. I could list all sorts of different, exciting and down right brilliant things that are going on... but this time I'd rather focus on just one thing. What exactly is it our young people gain from being a Scout? Confidence; raised self-esteem; friendship; courage to face new challenges; learning problem solving abilities; adaptability; creativity; understanding how to work in a team alongside those they wouldn't necessarily choose to be with; empowerment to show initiative and lead others; fun and laughter. How do I know this?

A marvellous example of much of this is seen in the achievements of our young people. I would like to single out Zach, the first Scout from Kimpton to achieve his Chief Scouts Gold Award. He has put in so much hard work, beyond expectations, to fulfil the many requirements it takes to achieve this award. Many congratulations to him.

This term both Zach and Zowie, who have volunteered an evening a week to help with Beaver Scouts for the past 2 years, led a whole evening session from start to finish. It was

brilliant. They organised the evening like a Scout session, with traditional flag break and followed this with a great fruit tasting activity. They talked about all the things a Scout would take on a hike, with a rucksack full of intriguing items. The Beavers loved it and I just can't think of a better way to inspire our young folk than to have teenagers volunteering their time to nuture and teach them. Many thanks to Zowie and Zach for their dedication and hard work.

With the guidance and support of the adult leaders we now have young leaders volunteering to help in Beavers and Cubs. This is a true testament to what Scouting can offer and assures us of a continuing and bright future for Kimpton Scout Group.

We really look forward to welcoming new members.

Please visit our website at

www.kimptonscouts.org.uk to register on our
waiting list.

Annie New
Beaver Scout Leader
01438 833421

Preston Gardens Open Day Sunday 29th May 1-5pm

14 gardens in this pretty village 3 miles south of Hitchin offer a variety of sizes, styles and planting with many interesting features including unusual plants, wild areas and water features. The small Arts and Crafts Church of St Martin will be beautifully decorated and open to visitors. Stalls on the Green and Teas in the Village Hall. Also Barbeque on the Green from 12 noon.

Map supplied on admission.

Entry £3.50 (children free). Free parking. Contact 01462 433859 (Liz)



At long last, Kimpton Preschool now has a home all of its own. We've moved in to our new, purpose-built building opposite The Boot public house and in the grounds of Kimpton Primary School. And we're already seeing the benefits of being located so close to the main school – as are parents who have children that attend both.

We take children from the age of two upwards and are open five mornings a week. Lunch club and afternoon sessions are also available on a Tuesday and Thursday. We'll hopefully be adding more afternoon sessions as demand picks up.

Unlike many other preschools in the area, we're totally community-run and a registered charity. This helps us keep our prices as low as possible, whilst still offering the professional level of care and support that you would expect for your children.

Our commitment to the community also includes hosting sessions from local groups wherever possible. For example, Dinky Dancers and Music With Mums will come into our sessions each week to help us provide the children with a wider range of learning experiences.

We'll be open on Sunday the 20th of March for the Mad March Sale. Please drop by and have a look around our new building. We're extremely proud to be able to provide such a great facility in the heart of the village, and hope many of you take up our invitation to see it for yourself.

For more information, please contact us on 01438 833936.

The 2011 Ayot Literary Festival

The 2011 Ayot Literary Festival will be held on Friday 24th, Saturday 25th and Sunday 26th June in a marquee at Ayot Green.

The programme will comprise events for adults and children, with the theme for adult events being intelligent, entertaining discussion, with writers covering subjects to include global issues, history, cookery, politics, humour and of course, their latest book. Children's events will be fun and inspiring, and audience participation will be encouraged. (Not that children need any encouragement when they meet their favourite authors) After each event there will be a chance to have a copy of the book signed and meet the author in person. Some events will include wine.

The confirmed programme to date includes the following authors - Barbara Erskine, Will Hutton, Conn Iggulden, Jane Johnson, Prue Leith, Alexander McCall Smith, Adele Parks, Tony Parsons, Simon Scarrow and Darren Shan.

More details at www.greenfestivals.co.uk

Was that flood only 10 years ago?

The re-emergence of the River Kym or Kyme became serious over the weekend of February 24th / 25th in 2001 when it followed its natural course from Netherfield Springs (near Breachwood Green), through Kimpton, to join the Mimram at Kimpton Mill.

This was due to an unprecedented amount of rainfall since the previous September.

In order for the village to carry on its daily business a temporary bridge had to be constructed across the "river" running alongside Claggy Road in order to provide access to Commons Lane, and a small pedestrian bridge had to be constructed to give acess to the Corner Stores.

The water was re-routed by pipes through five residential properties to the High Street drainage system.

May Festival 2011







My name is Emily. I am 12 years old and I've lived in Kimpton all my life. I used to go to Kimpton Primary School but now I go to Sir John Lawes and I'm really enjoying it there. My favourite school subjects are PE, maths, art and science. My hobbies include playing the violin, athletics and shopping! I am also in the Netball and Hockey teams at school.

I'm looking forward to being May Queen Attendant and pleased to have been chosen. I will especially love choosing hair styles and designing my own dress. Also I'm extremely happy that I'll be spending May Festival with Rosie and Lucy. I hope the weather is pleasant and sunny and that everyone has a great time. I'm sure it will be amazing because it always is!

I'm Lucy and I'm 13 years old. I go to Roundwood Park School, but I used to go to Kimpton Primary School as I have lived in Kimpton for nearly all my life. My favourite subjects are PE, art and music, and my hobbies include baking, music and shopping.

I'm really excited about being May Queen this year as it will make my May Festival even better, and I am so glad to have Rosie and Emily as attendants. I think this year's theme is great as there are so many possibilities. I have been to every May Festival since I was born and I think it is one of the highlights of my year as it brings the whole community together. Fingers crossed for good weather and I hope you enjoy the May Festival as much as I will.

I'm Rosie and my Festival this year is going to be great! I can't wait to join Lucy and Emily at this year's May Festival as it will be awesome! I go to Sir John Lawes (the best school ever) but I used to go to Kimpton Primary with Lucy and Emily. My favourite subjects at school are food tech, art and PE. I enjoy hockey, netball, playing the cornet and having a great time shopping with friends.

I enjoy May Festival so much as there is something for everyone to do. It brings everyone in Kimpton together to share their music at Kimpton Entertains, dancing at the maypole, displays and even showing off your strength in the tug-of-war. I hope you enjoy this year as much as I am going to.

Details and times of all events can be found in the May Festival Programme which will shortly be on sale at the Corner Shop, The Boot, The White Horse, Wheathampstead and Whitwell Post Offices and Codicote Butchers

The 47th Kimpton May Festival is rapidly approaching and I

know the various and varied village groups are working hard on their particular events and activities. This years theme of 'The 60s' has provided a lot of scope for interpretation so look out for the floats, costumes, events (and wheelie bins!) that may take a 'different' slant on the theme.

Lucy, Emily and Rosie have been busy, with dresses to design, photos to take etc, and I know they are very much looking forward to a long weekend they will always remember.

Next year we are proposing to offer something for the young men of the village who would like to take a key role in the Festival. Watch out for more information, and your chance to decide what this should be, in the Programme and at the Committee tent.

This year we are able to begin enjoying the Festival weekend with the Royal Wedding, giving many of us an excuse to start the party a little earlier than usual. Let's all think positive thoughts about the weather and see if we can arrange a really good weekend of sun and warmth!

Remember...you can link to the May Festival on the internet (www.kimptonmayfest.co.uk) and on Facebook ('Kimpton May Festival') and add your comments, suggestions etc.

Andrew Ackrill May Festival Chair

Art Show 2011

This year's Art Show will aim to joi the theme of the May Festival. You may enjoy some 60's fashion brought back in style on the opening night. Why not join in too and bring your own 60's look to the party!

The show has a new website www.kimptonartshow.co.uk where you can find everything from photos of recent Shows to information on categories displayed: framed and unframed paintings, framed photography, ceramics, glass and other media. Friday, the day of the Royal Wedding, is Opening Night. After watching the Wedding, come along and celebrate with a glass of wine, while browsing or buying a work for your home or for a friend.

This year, with the help of the Rusty Gun at St. Ippolyts and the Wellington at Welwyn, we are offering discounted entry on the Friday evening to patrons who produce a receipt for a meal costing £30 or more (excluding wine). We are also planning to exhibit a representative selection of artists' works at these two establishments and at the Kimpton and Welwyn surgeries.

Our thanks go to Chris and Fiona Gerard and to Bridge Cottage Surgeries. Peter Liddell

Thanks from the Treasurer

Thanks to everyone's generosity the 2010 May Festival raised over £11,000 last year. As usual local organisations who run stalls keep half their profits, donating the other half to the Festival Committee. In the past we have given 50% of the festival profits to the Parish Church Restoration Fund and then distributed the remaining 50% amongst local organisations and charities.

At the last May Festival AGM it was agreed to modify the way the money is handed out slightly from 2011. Each year the profit will be split into thirds: a third going to the Parish Church Restoration fund, a third to the Memorial Hall & a third to be distributed to local charities & organisation. It was felt the money raised by the festival would be well spent helping to maintaining two of the buildings that are the main focal points in the village buildings – the Parish Church & the Memorial Hall.

James Clayton May Festival Treasurer 01438 832944

More May Festival news overleaf

A Thoroughly Modern May Queen Selection Night!

The selection of the May Queen and Attendants was not an easy task this year. Nine excellent candidates put themselves forward for the prestigious roles, including two boys, and the three independent judges were very impressed with the way all of the youngsters presented themselves.

However, in the end, after much deliberation, the judges all agreed on the appointment of Lucy Ackrill as May Queen, with Emily Westcott and Rosie Cole as her two attendants. Anyone who knows the girls will no doubt agree that they are perfect for the job and we are sure they will be a huge success (no pressure, girls!!).

The judges were impressed by all the candidates, but special mention was made of the two boys who put themselves forward this year. They raised an important question for us all to consider: why is there no figurehead role for boys in the May Festival? Surely if it is fair for girls to join in with everything boys do these days, it was argued, it must be time for the boys to be more prominent in our May Festival?

The May Festival Committee have welcomed the raising of this issue and would like to consult the people of Kimpton on this, with a view to inviting boys to take on some sort of figurehead role next year alongside the girls. Whilst it is considered very important to maintain the tradition of the May Queen and Attendants, the Committee would also like to see created a role for boys which might compliment that tradition and, by doing so, create a new one!

So, please give this issue some thought. There will be a suggestions box in the May Festival Committee tent at this year's Festival and your ideas are welcomed as to what kind of role(s) could be created for our boys for next year.

Well done to Lucy, Emily and Rosie and we wish them and everyone in Kimpton a very happy May Festival!

Kate Frost and Gill Webb (May Queen organisers)

Calling all Kimpton Cakemakers to rally for the May Festival

Oyez! Ye Cooks of Kimpton

This year the Vicarage Teas are really facing their biggest challenge yet. The festival is only a week after Easter and only one day after the Royal Wedding. Will our loyal cooks, and any newcomers, be able to make sufficient sponges (filled and unfilled), little cakes, traybakes and delicious scones for all those who love Vicarage Cream Teas? Scones should be thick enough to slice in half and approx 3 inches across, with or without sultanas. Freezer space will be needed for all those who start weeks ahead to beat the rush.

Please bring your cooking to the Vicarage on Saturday and Sunday mornings from 9.a.m. (April 30th and May 1st.) in labelled tins and boxes.

Helpers, male and female, young and old will be needed on the days. Contact Valerie Pollington on **01438 832249** to say when you will be available and for how long.

Don't Forget the 27th Annual Fun Run Monday May 2nd

It's just a bit of fun, so come and also bring your friends to enjoy the atmosphere, the Pig Roast and the Pimms Bar - when you have reached the finish!

Registration is at 10am on the village green and the 3 mile juniors race starts at 11am and the 6 mile seniors at 11.10

All the other regular events including Kimpton Entertains, on Saturday night, and the Brains of Kimpton final on Sunday night will be listed in the programme which will shortly be on sale in the village pubs and the Corner Stores where all the events and times are listed.

The accounts for the 2010 May Festival are on page 22

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION Kimpton Branch



The Remembrance Day Service was, as usual very well attended in November. The Poppy Appeal raised £2619.00 this year at the last count. A further donation of £169.00 was received from

the collection at the funeral of Richard (Dicky) Carnill, a former Poppy Appeal collector and WW2 veteran of the Normandy landings.

Kimpton RBL members with and other members of the community have collected a significant sum of money to present a bench to the village. This will probably be located at the Recreation Ground. The intention is that the presentation will be made to coincide with the celebrations for the 90th anniversary of the foundation of the Royal British Legion.

We are still keen to recruit new members to the Legion which does sterling work in supporting ex servicemen. Further information about the Legion and what it does, from our Chairman, Malcolm Voss 01438 832921 or the Secretary, Dave Gibbs, 01438 832236. Dave Gibbs

Women's Section

We have been busy over the winter period, firstly back in November on a very cold and snowy day we attended our annual County conference at Hatfield where we gained second prize in the branch competition for our joint entry on the theme of 'A New Baby' which consisted of knitted items, a homemade card and a cot mobile. We were very pleased with our efforts as we are one of the smaller branches in the County. This coming year we will be celebrating the 90th anniversary of the Womens Section with country wide events. Our Standard Bearer and delegate will be attending the National Conference at Eastbourne in May.

We will again be running a tombola stall at May Festival so if anyone has any suitable prizes they can be left at 2 The Wick or 9 Commons Lane. No Bric-a-brac thanks.

We hope you will visit our stall on the day where you will receive a warm welcome.

Jenny Desborough

SMILES TO LIGHT UP WINTER



After Christmas, when the tinsel is down and the lights have been put away, things can feel very cold and bleak. Not so in the church, where we had a great party to warm up the glooms of winter. Our 'Not 12th Night' Party attracted a host of people of all ages, who were very happy to get involved in ridiculous games and to eat a lot!

The church is organising several such events - a Safari Supper and a Hunger Lunch have both been recent successes. They are open to all, so anyone can join in with the fun! Andy Morton



Pre-season training started on 3 January at the Choice Cricket Centre in Redbourne and continues each week until the start of the season - it is held from 9-10pm on a Monday evening. Early season form is looking good, particularly from the bowlers.

We have a very full programme this year, with matches every Sunday from 18 April (Carpenter's Arms, away) until 25 September. The first home game is 25 April against Codicote - support appreciated! We also have five Saturday games and four midweek 20 over games in the Herts Village Trophy.

As ever, we are always pleased to hear from prospective new members and non-playing volunteers that might be interested in scoring, umpiring or fundraising. Please give Simon (01438 833767 or 07899 810743) a call if you would like to get involved.

Kimpton Bowls Club

We are starting to prepare for the coming season by mowing and treating the green. During the season, the green is mowed twice a week by club members led by Ken Ryder.

Our season begins with an Open Day on Sunday 17 April this year when we welcome anyone who wishes to come along and meet us and maybe try their hand at bowling. We then have informal roll-ups on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6.30pm when you are welcome to come and join us.

Most of our members live in Kimpton or surrounding villages. If you would like someone to introduce you, please give me a call on 01438 871358 and I will arrange this.

On the Saturday of May Festival 30 April, the Bowls Club sell teas and cakes from the clubhouse and run competition games on the green. Do come along and join in the fun and enjoy the wonderful views from our patio.

Hal Boshier, Chair 2011

Anyone for Table Tennis?

Is anyone is interested in getting a few people together occasionally to play a game of table tennis?

Or forming a more regular Table Tennis Club?

There is a practice table in the Memorial Hall, together with a box of odd bats, balls and nets. The Memorial Hall Green Room is available most evenings and some weekends (£7 per hour any time). And the icing on the cake is that if anyone wanted to start a proper club some funding may be available too. There is also a posh competition table if things get really serious. So, get in touch with me by phone or email if you are interested.

Bob Finch 01438 832497 k2jent@aol.com





Following the publication of these photographs from the Kimpton History Group archive we've heard from Sue Ryder and Dennis Clarke. Sue is certain that the photos were taken in the late seventies on the eastern side of the rec. Each class from the school planted a tree. Second from the left in the large group is Sue and Ken's eldest son Matthew and in front of him is Gareth Parkinson. They would have been six or seven years old. Sue thinks the headmaster, Ray Penrose, is the adult in the picture. Dennis Clarke says the the lad on the left in the group of three is the late Karl Deamer.

50 years ago from the Parish Magazine and Local Press

Baptisms

April 23rd Virginia Caroline Mary Rainforth Martin Jeffrey Swain

Weddings

March 23rd Arthur Bates and Jacqueline

Wrightson

April 22nd Robert Deamer and Margaret

Grovestock

Burials

April 1st	Margaret Nightingale	63 years
April 12th	Rosemary Gatward	an infant
April 20th	Cyril Dunham	69 years
April 25th	Arthur Cox	72 years

Arthur Cox was an active member of the church, being a member of the choir, serving on the PCC for over 30 years. He also served as both Vicar's and People's Warden.

Kimpton Players

The Kimpton Players' 1961 spring production was William Fairchild's "The Sound of Murder" It starred Jean Durrant, William Bradley, Anthony Evers with Martin and Elva Good. The play was produced by Barbara Probyn with settings by Keith Seymour and the prompter was Irene Edwards.

Kimpton Youth Club

A Highway Beatnik competiton was organised in March. It was an initiative test for boys aged between 15 and 21. They set off on a Friday at 8pm in pairs from various points in the county and were given a destination to reach before midnight. The rendezvous was the Town Hall in Buckingham. The boys were allowed 10/- (50p) for the whole journey and extra marks were given for each 1/- (5p) they brought back. Trevor Ives and Dick Mann from Kimpton were in third place.

Kimpton Women's Institute

A talk on the history and work of the Marie Curie Memorial Foundation was given by Mr Miller

The competition for a floral arrangement in a cream jug was won by Mrs Dyer with Mrs Edwards second and Mrs Clark third. In May Mr Stott will give a talk entitled "Bus to Moscow".

The competition is for an original poem on Moscow and plans were made for a Produce Guild outing to the Shredded Wheat factory.

All this and more can be found at www.kimpton.org.uk and click on 'Kimpton Archive on line' With thanks to the History Group.



Community Policing

PCSOs are on the move again! Tracey Jackson has transferred to HQ and we now have Elaine Cuozzo back as our part funded officer as from February with village cover 2/3 days per week. Her colleague Charli Tizard, who has primary responsibilities in other Wards will also provide some cover.

Both of these officers are happy to be approached on their walk-abouts to help with any queries and when the Mobile Police Station is parked in Claggy Road use it if you need any advice on local issues, crime prevention and security (personal and/or property). All officers are happy to discuss any matter personally in confidence including arrangements for a free home crime prevention survey.

Just to remind you that police telephone contact is now through a new automated system at County HQ on **01707 354192** where you must clearly identify the officer you wish to speak to.

Elaine can also arrange a visit to conduct a free crime prevention survey.

Fortunately our Ward Constable Chris Suckling is still in post with the emphasis on Rural Beat Issues in our area often making nocturnal visits on the look out for fly tippers, opportunist burglars and suspicious vehicles.

The new Automatic Number Plate Recognition system is scoring many successes in identifying vehicles without tax ,insurance or MOT or up to no good .

Police Target Issues

At the risk of boring you we highlight that there is wide agreement that steps must be taken to reduce Fly Tipping, Anti- Social Behaviour, Hare Coursing and Off-roading by 4x4's so if you witness any of these crimes actually taking place you should ring 999.

Local riding stables, farmers and gamekeepers have joined forces with the police to combat rural crime by reporting suspicious persons/vehicles linked in with Farm Watch and Horse Watch. Business and Dog Watches

have also been created.

We must wait to see whether the impending cuts will have adverse effects on local policing and we already know that the jobs of the two Watch Liaison Officers are disappearing.

New Hi- tech Property Marking is here Selecta DNA is a marking fluid containing thousands of micro-dots that is painted on to high value items, invisible to the naked eye, but will show up under UV light. The fluid is part of a kit including brush and labels for attaching to the item and your entry doors, available at a special price of £15.00. The bottle contains sufficient fluid to mark about 50 items and is unique to your home, so it is not possible to share with a neighbour, and enables the police to trace stolen items to your household. If you are interested in purchasing a kit please contact PC Matthew Jenkins by e-mail

matthew.jenkins@herts.pnn.police.uk or leave a message on 01438 757604 with full

Neighbourhood Watch Street Co-ordinatorVacancies

details of your contact information.

Vacancies in Coopers Close/Coopers Hill, plus six others, three in the High St. and one each in Lawn Avenue, Lime Avenue/The Drive and Wren Close. The work basically is communication with neighbours and is not demanding or time consuming. Access to email is desirable (see item below on OWL) but not essential.

Community minded residents with some spare time are requested to contact Alan Smith.

OWL On-line Watch Link

This system is reliable, SAFE and can be expanded as a means of receiving and passing on information from the police concerning actual local crime, crime trends and adjoining Ward reports. Additionally, there is access to property and vehicle security and advice on prevention of identity theft. to next page

Any resident with an email address can be included in the OWL system, however, you will be required to sign an easily completed NHW OWL Consent Form which for the time being can be obtained OWL Administrator and NHW Watch Liaison Officers Penny Knapper whose contact details are:

01438 757610, email address:

penelope.knapper@herts.pnn.police.uk Residents without e-mail can receive information by telephone.

Recorded Local Crime

Apart from four recent burglaries we continue to be a low crime area. Please be aware that Fraud, Bogus Callers and Identity Theft continue to be a threat and you are reminded to be particularly alert when using an ATM. Theft of handbags and wallets in supermarkets remains a problem with serious consequences in particular the theft of personal identity. Please remember the police warning on these issues is as follows: "Residents should be vigilant and always report any suspicious activity immediately. If the police receive a 999 call about a crime actually in progress they have a better chance to catch the offenders. They require information about the appearance of the suspects and details of any vehicles involved. Registration numbers and descriptions of vehicles are very useful and improve intelligence."

Shed and garage security advice

Police are advising residents to lock up their gardening equipment and tools and to keep their valuables secure after a number of burglaries across the county.

Tools left lying around can be valuable to an opportunistic burglar for use breaking into your home.

Remember to always lock your shed/garage door securely and ensure that they have the right locks to enhance security and lock away any tools after use.

Consider purchasing a shed alarm which is sensitive to vibrations.

Metal "up and over" garage doors can be secured with additional locks fitted to either side and/or a floor mounted locking 'T' bar with a closed shackle padlock.

Wooden garage doors can be secured with two substantial hasps and staples and closed

shackle padlocks (your local DIY store should be able to advise on the appropriate lock for your application).

Caring Neighbours

You should always check on elderly, vulnerable and neighbours living alone and remind them not to let unexpected callers into their house. If in doubt call the Police immediately on 999.

Reporting Crime

It is important that if you have any information about a crime you should call 0845 33 00 222. You can also contact Crime stoppers on 0800 555 111 to provide information anonymously.

Crime Prevention Items

Should you need advice or wish to purchase items please contact the North Herts Crime Prevention Panel on contact@nhcpp.org or Dennis Wall, dennis.wall@herts.pnn.police.uk Items include Purse/Bag/Bike Alarms and free Marker Pens.

Please remember that we hold a small stock of items at very modest prices and the good news is that some are free to the elderly and vulnerable. You can select required items by contacting Alan Smith who can provide a price list and place an order on your behalf.

Night Security and Absence

Shorter days are still with us so ensure that your property is secure with all windows, doors, garages and sheds properly locked. Make it look 'lived in' if possible by parking a vehicle in front of your garage or at least on the drive. If you intend to be absent for more than a day let a neighbour know of your absence and how you can be contacted. Use timer switches on lamps or leave a security lamp on always using energy saving bulb of course.

Upvc doors with key operated shoot bolts must double locked with the key, otherwise it is possible for an intruder to jemmy the door, gain entry and perish the thought! Don't leave any keys within sight of an open letter box.

Have a peaceful and safe build up to Spring.

Alan Smith, Kimpton Village NHW Co-ordinator 01438 832749 margaret.smith5@talktalk.net



Dear Kimpton,

This is the first of what I hope will be a regular contribution to your local magazine, keeping you updated on goings on at nearby Sue Ryder – Stagenhoe Park.

For those of you that don't know about us, a little background:

Stagenhoe is a specialist care centre for people living with conditions such as Huntington's disease, multiple sclerosis and brain injury. Our nurses and carers ensure our residents' can live life well and as independently as possible, by helping to alleviate pain, mobility issues and barriers to communication.

Recent success story: Film club
We are delighted to say that we have received
over £300 of funding in order to operate a
monthly Film Club here at the care centre. Trips
to Cineworld, popcorn and ice cream are few
and far between for the residents and so we
have tried our best to bring the movies to
Stagenhoe. Thanks to our friends at Rotary and
a local company our residents' will enjoy a new
release from Blockbuster as well as theatre
sized tubs of Haagen Dazs throughout 2011!

Dates for your diary:

Easter Egg Hunt – Sunday 17 April, 2-4pm Family Fun Day – Sunday 29 May, 12-5pm

Lots of fundraising and volunteer opportunities exist here at the care centre. We have a vibrant Recreational Therapy department and busy fundraising office. Just give us a call to find out how you can get involved.

I would like to take this opportunity to reiterate how much Sue Ryder appreciates the kind support it receives from Kimpton and the surrounding community. We look forward to meeting some of you at your May Festival.

Elliott Port, Fundraiser Sue Ryder – Stagenhoe Park 01438 871427 elliott.port@sueryder.org

A Message from 'Holly Hedge'

My name is Holly Hedge and I live on the corner of a lane on private land. Last Autumn along came a tractor with a flailing machine! I was starting to produce berries for winter, for hungry birds, animals and Christmas foliage for my owners family and friends in the surrounds of KIMPTON... now I was somewhat denuded again!! For the 2nd time!!! I provide safe shelter to breeding birds for nesting in springtime. For many many decades I have been providing shelter, food and regeneration. In amongst me are wild dogrose, hawthorn, hazel as there are in all our native hedgerows - IF they are judiciously pruned.

I also support a very precious self seeded NEW elm tree.

My owners needless to say are rather upset (as I am too) by this tresspass and 'rape' for which they have given no instruction or permission.

Angela Snelling

*If readers have comments about this or any other local issues we would be happy to publish them.

Please email to kimpton.editor@btinternet.com The deadline for the summer edition is Friday June 3rd.

We will also be happy to receive images in JPEG form, sent as separate attachments.

Volunteer Gardeners Needed

Would you like to be a volunteer gardener at Isabel Hospice?
Nothing too strenuous. Just general maintenance gardening about every five weeks or so. If you are interested, please contact Marjorie Webb on 01707 654505 for more details. Thanks

Serenata A Cappella Singers Concert at The Palladian Church Ayot St Lawrence Saturday April 16th 2011 at 8pm

Hertfordshire based Serenata is an a cappella octet of versatile singers performing complex, challenging, intersting and fullfilling (and fun!) choral music written in up to eight separate voice parts in all imaginable styles

Their first concert was in Ayot St Lawrence in July 1982.
This year's concert will be a mixture of secular and sacred music with an Easter emphasis.

For more information visit their website www.serenatavoices.org.uk

Tickets £8 including a glass of wine during the interval
For further details and to book tickets contact
Christine Stevenson 01438 820371 christine@ayotstlawrence.com

All proceeds will go to the Palladian Church Funds

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Expenditure	2010(£)	2009 (£)
Entertainment	038	2,020
GeneralExpenses	1,915	2,716
Traffic Management	1,635	1,601
Insurance	791	777
Prizes & Rosettes	826	741
PublicityExpenses	46	407
Total Expenditure	7,251	8,262
KIMPTONMAYFESTIVAL	FESTIVAL	
2010 Statement	ment	
	2010(£)	2009 (£)
TotalIncome	480	21,706
Total Expenditure	7,251	8,262
Surplus / (Deficit) for year	11,229	12,494
KIMPTONMAY FESTIVAL	FESTIVAL	
	2010 (£)	2009 (E)
Blue Cross	100	0
Church Restoration Fund	5,614	6,247
Fundamentals	300	0
Garden House Huspice:	200	300
Herts Air Ambulance	200	
Isabel Haspice	200	
Kerch Cottage Hospice	200	0
Kimpton Bench Working Party	200	
Kimpton Guides	656	260
Kimpton Monkeys	126	300
Kimpton Playgroup	445	450
	0	500
Kimpton Bainbuws	0	150
Minney Finess Gordon	000	1 500
Kimpton Memorial Hall	2.000	3,600
Noise Project	100	
St Peter & St Pauls PCC	812	999
Welfare Payments	200	66
Betel	250	
NOTALIBRITISM	11,752	14,358

Accounts prepared by James Clayton & confirmed by John Hunter as being in accordance with the records and information received.

The May Festival Committee would like it to be known that there is a welfare fund which is available to be drawn upon, in the event of hardship befalling a resident of the village. Please contact Andrew Ackrill with requests or nominations.

The Church in Kimpton

Parish Church

Vicar

The Reverend Lorraine Summers The Vicarage 11 High Street Kimpton SG4 8RA 01438 833419 revles@btinternet.com

Reader

Mrs Valerie Phillips 15 Hampden Kimpton SG4 8QH 01438 832649

Church Wardens

Mrs Liz Jamieson Southview 21 Hampden Kimpton SG4 8QH 01438 832858

Roman Catholic Church

Priest

Father Brian Reynolds 01582 832114

Baptist Church Perry Green

Pam Greener 01582 604771

Police Telephone Numbers

Urgent 999 Non Urgent 0845 33 00 222

local rate

to contact <u>any</u> police station or department in Hertfordshire

Hitchin Safer Neighbourhood Team Rural Issues 01438 757604

Ward Constable Chris Suckling 01438 757604

Community Support Officer
PCSO Elaine Cuozzo
01707 354192 (automated system)

Parish Magazine

Editor: Andy Wright

email: kimpton.editor@btinternet.com

Typed or written copy to John Pollington,10 Canham Close Kimpton SG4 8SD 01438 832249

Deadline

Copy for the summer edition must reach us by June 3rd

Parish Council

Cllr John Baughan

Cllr Ian Corbett

Cllr David Hardstaff

Cllr Jon Marsh

Cllr Sue O'Brien

Cllr Jon Palmer

Cllr Donatella Pirola

Cllr David Reavell (chairman)

Parish Clerk

Carina Helm, Memorial Hall kimptonpc@btconnect.com

01438 832573

Parish Councillors can be

contacted at

kimptonpc@btconnect.com

North Herts District Councillor

Cllr John Bishop john.bishop@north-herts.gov.uk

County Councillor

Cllr Richard Thake richard.thake@hertscc.gov.uk

Helping Hand

HOSPITAL VISITING

Please phone the vicarage - 01438 833419 - if anyone from the village is in hospital.

VILLAGE HELPLINE

If you need transport to hospital etc. please contact Linda Thompson 01438 833180

NORTH HERTS COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER SERVICES SCHEME

Can provide transport to hospitals. For details ring 01462 459752

CANCER ADVISORY SERVICE

BACUP Link Line. Freephone 181199

THE SAMARITANS

If you would like to talk to the Samaritans or find out more about becoming a volunteer, please ring 01582 720666 or 08457 90 90 90 anytime day or night or email jo@samaritans.org

HITCHIN CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU

To contact the CAB phone 01462 622999 Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday afternoon between 1pm and 5.30pm

CARERS IN HERTFORDSHIRE

Support and guidance offered for all carers, including support groups, a telephone link line and a regular newsletter. Carers can contact the centre on 01462 456660

KIMPTON MONKEYS TODDLERS GROUP

Craft, ride-on toys, baby corner, music, dance and singing for pre-school children and babies. Entrance is £1.50 and includes tea/coffee/juice and snacks.

Kimpton Memorial Hall, Tuesdays 9.30 to 11.30am during term time.

Contact Tamsin Corbett 01438 833872 or 07810 898101.

KIMPTON Preschool

Our friendly team, based in the new building next to Kimpton Primary School, offers sessional care for local children aged two and a half to four years old.

We are open five days per week during term time, from 9.15am – 12.15pm. For more details, please contact Karen Pagan on 07833 572820 (playgroup mobile) or 01438 833936

KIMPTON MEMORIAL HALL

For bookings contact Mrs Barbara Kazwini. 6 The Wick, Kimpton. 01438 832620

PETER'S GREEN VILLAGE HALL

For bookings please contact Pauline Massam 01438 833806

USEFUL LINKS

www.kimpton.org.uk www.herts.police.uk www.stalbans.anglican.org www.kimpton.herts.sch.uk